

SECRET

40 COMMITTEE
14 JULY 1975

14 July 1975

DCI BRIEFING FOR
14 JULY SRG MEETING

ANGOLA

- I. The character of fighting that broke out in Luanda late last week brought a new dimension to the long-standing conflict between the two main Angolan liberation groups.
 - A. Neto's Popular Movement made a deliberate attempt to drive Roberto's National Front from the city, and largely succeeded in doing so, at least for the present.
 1. Previous clashes had been characterized by widely scattered street fighting, but last week the Popular Movement went after the Front's key buildings.
 - B. The National Front cannot tolerate its expulsion from the capital. It regained some ground in the city yesterday, and is rushing reinforcements from Zaire.
 1. The Front regained the territory around its headquarters. The odds are against it re-establishing itself in force in the city, however.

- 1 -

SECRET

SECRET

Approved For Release 2004/08/25 : CIA-RDP79R01142A002100010022-8

25X1

- II. The National Front's military position has been seriously weakened since the sharp clashes of late May and early June.
- A. The Popular Movement, by placing itself between the Front's stronghold in northern Angola and Luanda, had made it extremely difficult for the Front to transport military supplies to its forces in the capital.
- B. Portuguese forces in Luanda still refuse to take firm action to stop the fighting. This, in effect, gives the Popular Movement a free hand.
- III. The three liberation groups in the transitional government recently approved an interim constitution which reaffirms their commitment to hold national elections before the end of October.
- A. They are not likely to meet that deadline, however -- particularly if the clashes between the Front and the Popular Movement continue.

- 2 -

SECRET

Approved For Release 2004/08/25 : CIA-RDP79R01142A002100010022-8

Approved For Release 2004/08/25 : CIA-RDP79R01142A002100010022-8

40 Committee
14 July 76

Approved For Release 2004/08/25 : CIA-RDP79R01142A002100010022-8